



*Caring From
Every Perspective*

CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY CARE, INC

43 Enterprise Drive
Bristol, CT 06010-7472
Telephone: 860-589-6226
Facsimile: 860-585-0858

DIVISIONS:

*Care Management Associates
Case Management Institute
CyberCAM*

HB 6350

**Oppose Elimination of Funding to CT Independent Living
Centers**

Appropriations Committee

Public Hearing February 22, 2013

Molly Rees Gavin, President

Sentator Harp and Representative Walker and esteemed members of the Appropriations Committee:

Connecticut Community Care, Inc. (CCCI) stands in support of our Independent Living Centers and opposes the Governor's proposal to eliminate funding for CT's Centers for Independent Living. CCCI is a statewide, nonprofit conflict-free care management organization providing an array of assessment and coordination assistance for public and private programs. We have had the privilege of working with the Eastern and North Central Centers on critical initiatives such as Money Follows the Person and community emergency preparedness for people with access and functional needs. In partnership with these Centers we continue to build a coordinated network of information and assistance or "no wrong door" to long term services and supports.

The state dollars designated for elimination have been used to provide training and mentoring to help people with disabilities live productive lives and to support people who transition out of nursing homes not to simply live in the community, but to thrive in doing so. Our Centers are the regional hub for promoting independence, autonomy, self-advocacy and self-sufficiency with and for people with disabilities. The Centers are dogged in working to change the perceptions and realities that prevent people with disabilities from sharing in the community – employment, housing, accessibility and systems change.

We ask that you oppose the elimination of their funding.